THE MESSENGER

OF THE OAKLAND STAKE OF ZION

Vol. 10 — OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, FEBRUARY, 1940 — No. 2

THE NEW CHALLENGE TO MORMONISM

Editor's Note—Following is the text of a short talk by Marion D. Redford at Sunday School conference in Berkeley ward, Sunday, November 19. Elder Redford, a native of Logan, Utah, is employed by the Standard Oil Company at Richmond. A graduate of the Utah State Agricultural College, he is at present the president of the Deseret Club at the University of California.

I have chosen as my subject, "The New Challenge to Mormonism." I should like to advance the thought that we, as members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, are facing a new challenge to our religious philosophy that is equally as vital to its continued progress as the prejudice and active hostility faced by the founders and pioneers during the early days of the Church.

I speak of the drastic necessity for reconstructing our own conceptions of Mormonism to meet the just demands of modern life and of modern thinking.

Our fight is on an intellectual front. We must face the stern reality of either clinging blindly to static, pre-formed—and perhaps immature—conceptions of Mormonism or of meeting the challenge with intellectual honesty. We must grow up intellectually.

I believe the principles of the Church will withstand the most penetrating analysis. The Mormon philosophy, in my opinion, is based on the following fundamental concepts:

First, it is based on positive, constructive thinking.

We strive for a minimum of wasted energy or confusion of thought caused by accenting opposing philosophies. This is a happy condition, psychologically, because it substitutes definiteness for doubt, and action for indecision.

We believe that indivdiual study supplements faith in building a sound religious philosophy. Thus an avenue is provided for personal investigation and analysis of Church doctrines tending toward informed faith.

We have a definite, complete program embodying intellectual, spiritual and social activities for the entire membership.

We have the glorious tradition of the founders and pioneers who believed strongly enough in the principles of Mormonism to leave their homes, cross the plains, and establish their new faith where they could live its doctrine unmolested.

This is an age of free thinking. In its highest sense this entails the search for individual impressions unhampered by pre-formed conclusions. Its responsibility is that whatever conclusions are arrived at must be supported by the evidence.

It is clearly our responsibility, then, as members of the Church, to be prepared to intelligently defend that which we believe.

It is important to note here that, as our understanding of Mormonism increases, our ability to make applications on a distinctly higher plane increases correspondingly. Let us search, earnestly and without fear, into the heart in the light of advancements in contemporary thought. Let us use these advances to more firmly re-establish our religious thinking.

Second, Mormonism is a way of life.

The question is asked, "Is our faith worth

Continued on Page Three

QUARTERLY CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 24-25

Regular quarterly conference will convene at the Oakland chapel February 24 and 25, commencing with a priesthood session Saturday evening, February 24.

Announcement has been received from headquarters that in 1940 auxiliary conventions will not be held in conjunction with quarterly conferences, but will be held within the respective auxiliary union meetings at some time during the year, to be announced later. The four quarterly conferences will all be priesthood conferences; one of them devoted to missionary work, one to the Aaronic priesthood and two to the Melchizedek priesthood.

STAKE MISSION FUNCTIONS WELL

Many interesting facts are revealed in the annual report of the Stake Mission in Oakland Stake. During the past year there has been a total of 67 persons baptized into the church as a result of the Stake missionary system. Some of them, of course, have had previous contacts with the church, but have now become active members in the wards of our Stake. Most of the people in this group are over 15 years of age—44 being over 15 and 13 under that age.

The Stake missionaries, through their contacts, have also found and restored church contact to many church members who have become inactive. Sixty-four members are in this group and have been brought back into church activity. Other interesting highlights include the following: 1907 hours spent in missionary work, 1789 gospel conversations, 47 copies of the Book of Mormon loaned and 14 copies sold, 3061 tracts and pamphlets have been distributed with 15 hall meetings and 37 cottage meetings held. The number present at these meetings totals 236.

The Stake mission is presided over by Robert T. Paine, with several district presidents in charge of a group of missionaries from the various wards.

WELFARE CONFERENCE

A special Regional Welfare Conference was held at Sunset ward hall in San Francisco, Sunday, January 7, at 2 p. m. Elder Harold E. Lee, chairman of the Church Welfare Board, was present to receive reports from Stake and Ward Welfare committees and to assign the work for the new year.

Welfare representatives from San Francisco and Oakland Stakes met together for a short general session. Elder Lee related some of his experiences in traveling about the Church on Welfare work. He reported that everywhere throughout the Church, Stakes are producing the things that are easiest for them to procure and donating all in excess of their own needs to the general plan. There are hundreds of articles of food and clothing that can now be provided by the Welfare plan in return for work certificates. Elder Lee mentioned a welfare dinner that was prepared in the Salt Lake area to show the type of meal that could be served, using only Welfare commodities. He assured his listeners that it was a very good dinner and one that surprised many who were invited to test it.

President Hilton and President Winter then briefly reported on the work being done in their respective Stakes and stressed the willingness of the people in this area to cooperate. Elder Lee then made the assignments to these two Stakes for next year.

The meeting then divided into two sections. President Hilton presided over the Oakland Stake meeting. The assignments made by Elder Lee were discussed and the Stake's ability to meet them determined. Brother Latimer reported that there were already on hand and in course of being repaired more than the allotment of a thousand pairs of shoes. Sister Ellsworth said that the Relief Society was prepared to handle the clothing assignment and promised 300 new or nicely made-over articles of children's clothing by next October. The needs of the Stake were then mapped out so that the order for necessary items could go back to Salt Lake with Elder Lee.

The joint meeting then reconvened and Elder Lee received the reports of the Stake presidents and encouraged all in the work they were doing. He stressed the fact that the Welfare plan is not an experiment but a plan of God being carried out by the Church.

COMING EVENTS

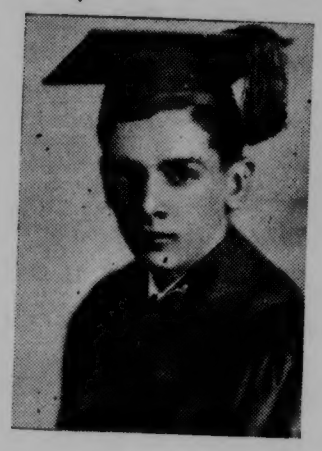
Friday, Feb. 9—Berkeley entertains Richmond, Claremont, Oakland. Dimond entertains Alameda, Elmhurst, Hayward. Pittsburg entertains Napa, Vallejo, Martinez.

Friday, February 23—Boy Scout - Bee Hive party.

FEBRUARY 24 - 25—STAKE QUARTERLY CONFERENCE.

Friday, March 1—Hayward entertains Elmhurst, Dimond, Alameda. Oakland entertains Richmond, Berkeley, Claremont.

DIMOND SENDS MISSIONARY



Elder Evans

Honoring Elder Ballif Howard Evans, prior to his departure to the Spanish-American mission, a farewell testimonial was held in Dimond ward chapel and recreation hall, Friday evening, January 5. After the opening song by the congregation, President Eugene Hilton offered the invocation. The Mormon Male Chorus then sang two numbers, after which the father of the missionary, William H. Evans, spoke briefly on he duties of a missionary and what was expected of him. He read several of his own poems during his remarks. A vocal solo by Afton Stout was followed by a presentation to the missionary of a bound volume of the standard works of the Church by Bishop Phelps for Dimond ward. Ballif then spoke briefly of the joy he had in being called on a mission. After selections by the Chorus, President Clyde Summerhays offered the benediction. Dancing and refreshments followed in the recreation hall. Ballif is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Evans of Dimond and has been very active in Church work in Dimond ward.

THE MESSENGER

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"Behold, I will send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple."—Mal. 3:1.

Vol. 10 FEBRUARY, 1940 No. 2

SMOKING DEFINITE HEALTH MENACE

Despite a great amount of advertising to the contrary, cigaret smoking is a definite menace to young men and women, being even more harmful, in fact, than the use of alcohol.

Authority for this statement is one of the most eminent authorities in the United States on circulatory disturbances, Dr. Leo H. Buerger of Los Angeles, discoverer of what is known as "Buerger's Disease," a malady affecting veins and arteries of the body, particularly the arms and legs, which in many cases require amputation. He states:

It has been proved beyond dispute that smoking causes arteries to narrow and makes susceptible people apt to develop blockage of arteries by the process of clotting. This condition is called by the medical profession "Buerger's Disease," which I have been making my special field of study since 1908.

Dr. Buerger was one of twenty nationally famous doctors who addressed sessions of the Rocky Mountain Medical Conference held in Salt Lake City recently.

STAKE M MEN-GLEANERS BANQUET AND DANCE

The annual dance and banquet of the Stake M Men and Gleaners was held January 26 at Berkeley chapel. The Stake officers take this opportunity of thanking Berkeley ward for the fine cooperation given them.

The banquet was put on by the Gleaners themselves, with a menu of Spanish food. President and Mrs. Hilton were the main speakers and the entertainment was furnished by Ted Winn of Oakland ward.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR FEBRUARY

Alameda: Don J. Allphin, R. Kendall Thomas.
Berkeley: Claude M. Dewsnup, Ralph J. Barney.
Claremont: Grant Ellis, Wayne E. Mayhew.
Dimond: Eugene Hilton.
Elmhurst: W. Glenn Harmon.
Hayward: Clyde J. Summerhays.
Martinez: Delbert F. Wright, Leo Crandall.
Napa: O. Leslie Stone, John G. Shields.
Oakland: Nathan G. Tolman, Elmo Carr.
Pittsburg: Don C. Wood, Oscar Fontano.
Richmond: Victor C. Lindblad, Peter Hoyup.
Vallejo: William J. Nielsen, Robert T. Paine.

Message of the Stake Presidency

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This message is directed to all men in the Stake who hold the Melchizedek Priesthood. All members of the Church are also invited to read it with care and cooperate wholeheartedly in working for the success of all priesthood activities.

As the work of the Lord in our day rolls on toward its glorious destiny, the plan, the place and importance of the priesthood becomes increasingly evident. Upon its vitality and activity depend the progress of the Church. It is through the priesthood and under its direction that all organizations of the Church operate and all of its activities are carried forward. Specifically, it alone sets this Church apart from all other organizations, be they secular or religious. The restoration of the priesthood in our day is the most important event of this dispensation.

The General Authorities of the Church have recognized these facts and are calling upon each of us to do our utmost to uphold the activities of the priesthood for 1940. They have planned that each of the Quarterly Conferences shall be priesthood conferences. The one to be held February 24th and 25th will be a Melchizedek Priesthood Conference with an apostle in attendance. The one (May 11-12) will feature Aaronic Priesthood and will be under the direction of the Presiding Bishopric. The third conference (September 7-8) will again be a Melchizedek Priesthood Conference. And the fourth one (November 23-24) will feature missionary work under the direction of the First Council of Seventy. Under this plan the annual conventions of the auxiliary organizations will be held by their respective General Boards at the time of their union meetings.

In Oakland Stake the various priesthood quorums have been reorganized. A new Quorum of Seventy and two additional Elders Quorums have been set up. The major time and chapel space of our monthly priesthood-union meetings is devoted to the official quorum meeting. Regular priesthood group meetings are held in each ward on Sunday mornings. It is to these two meetings that we specifically urge the attendance of every man holding the Melchizedek Priesthood in Oakland Stake. The same applies to the Aaronic Priesthood except that they are called together for Stake meetings only at the time of Quarterly Conference.

We desire that nothing be allowed to interfere with attendance at these ward and Stake priesthood meetings. All officers of ward and Stake should, without fail, be present at these respective priesthood sessions. They should do all within their power to get others to do likewise. No activity should be allowed to interfere.

Another point that needs to be stressed: The adult classes in Sunday School are the official Gospel study periods for the Melchizedek Priesthood. We urge that every priesthood member renew interest and activity in all these duties. We promise that to the degree that you do so you will grow in understanding, in wisdom, and testimony, and in your ability to effectively further the cause of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Faithfully your brethren,
Eugene Hilton,
W. Glenn Harmon,
Clyde J. Summerhays.

WARD TEACHERS'S MESSAGE FOR FEBRUARY, 1940

Loyalty

One of the most desirable and ennobling traits of character is loyalty. The person in whose life loyalty has been made a cherished virtue is fortunate indeed.

Loyalty, too frequently, has been associated only with respect to the nation or the country in which a person lives. Considered as a broad general principle it includes far more than that.

Loyalty to our Father in Heaven should be the beginning point. Surely every Latter-day Saint understands that our first obligation is to our Creator and that loyalty to Him is expected of us all.

Loyalty to the Church and its teachings should be, and logically is, closely associated with loyalty to the Lord. One follows the other in natural sequence.

Loyalty to those whom the Lord has appointed to preside over us in the Church, in the Stake and in the ward, is essential to our own progress and the progress of the Church.

Loyalty to our own ideals and standards will, of course, include loyalty to all to whom loyalty is due, and should form the basis of all expressions of this soul-developing characteristic.

Loyalty to our friends and associates, to our families, to employers, and to others whose relationships with us entitle them to our allegiance will be a matter of course if we have thoroughly established in our lives the priceless practice of loyalty to our own ideals and standards.

Loyalty to country, the most frequently associated with considerations and discussions of this indication of faithful devotion, will follow only if and when we have established loyalty to our own ideals and standards as a definite guide in our lives.

People depart from the paths of virtue and right living, only when they disregard their own standards. People become untrue to Church, country, employers, and friends only when they lay aside their own convictions of right and wrong.

As long as any Latter-day Saint remembers his own ideals and standards and follows them religiously the question of loyalty to all to whom loyalty is due, including our Father in Heaven, to whom our first devotion should be given, will never arise.

Loyalty is a glorious virtue. In all that it implies, it should be a guiding principle in the life of every Latter-day Saint.

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NEW CHALLENGE TO MORMONISM

Continued from page 1

fighting for?" I shall briefly summarize the reasons why I believe it is:

When properly understood and applied, it satisfies that thirst for the spirit of God that is innate in the soul of each of us. It awakens dormant creative energy and frees us from the slavery of earth-bound thinking. It broadens our mental horizon by providing us with a belief in the immortality of the soul and its eternal progression. We recognize no limiting factors, other than self-imposed, in our conception of our possible destiny. We believe that the human entity is indestructible and, as such, God-like.

It teaches us consciousness of the responsibility attached to the exercise of free agency.

It gives us a moral code unsurpassed as sound mental and physical hygiene.

It provides each of us with opportunities to lose ourself in service to others, and, thereby, to increase our capacity for living.

The modern tendency is toward analytical and exact thinking. A highly specialized society makes this inevitable. It is our privilege, as well as our responsibility, to give our conception of what Mormonism is, a chance to grow and expand in order that it may continue to be a vital, contributing force in our lives.

A tree, left without food and water, will wither and die. So also will our ideas of Mormonism if not cultivated and nourished with the food of progressive thinking. Unfortunately, many of the religious concepts of our youth are, perhaps unconsciously, retained unchanged as the basis of our individual mature religious philosophies. It is highly important that we accept this challenge as an opportunity for the re-alignment of our religious concepts rather than as a reason to consider our religion as out-moded.

Let us, then, dedicate ourselves to a better conception of Mormonism and give our religious philosophy a chance to grow with us.

When we are asked about our religion, let us be prepared to say proudly, "Yes, I am a Mormon. I believe in Mormonism. Would you like me to tell you why?"

RELIEF SOCIETY NOTES

The Relief Society is starting a drive to collect cast-off clothing, etc. Details will be announced in your ward in the near future. The Relief Society of our Stake has been assigned the responsibility of furnishing 300 or more articles of children's clothing—above our own need—for the current year. These will be procured by making over materials sent by Stake members of the Welfare project.

The lunch for Stake Conference—February 25—will be given by the Relief Society Stake Board. Proceeds will be spent in helping to equip the sewing room at the Welfare House for effective use. This room has recently received three large cabinets for storing and displaying clothes. These were purchased with money obtained at the last conference lunch.

RECITAL

Mrs. Mary Neilson announces a recital of her pupils to be held Saturday, February 17, at the Chapel of the Chimes, 4499 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland. The recital will begin at 8:00 p. m. and everyone is cordially invited to come and hear these splendid young singers.

OBITUARY

Anton Larsen, 57, brother of Mrs. Pauline Soper of Berkeley, died at Redding, January 19. Mr. Larsen, born in Bergen, Norway, came to Utah as a very young child with his widowed mother and other members of the family. Some time later the family moved to Oakland, where Mr. Larsen served for some time as a police officer.

TEMPLE MARRIAGE

Elder A. Ivins Hilton of the presidency of the 247th Quorum of Seventy, and Miss Edna Irene Huish of Alameda ward, were united in marriage in the Salt Lake Temple, January 24.

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MORMON MALE CHORUS BUSY

The Mormon Male Chorus, under the direction of Robert Sant, have a busy schedule for the next few weeks. On Sunday, February 4, the chorus furnished the Sunday evening service program for the Oakland ward. Solos were sung by Afton Stout and Elmer Jensen, chorus members. On March 3rd the chorus will travel to Palo Alto ward, San Francisco Stake, and present the Sunday evening program of music there.

On March 8th the chorus will give a concert at Hayward High School auditorium. This engagement is sponsored by the Hayward ward building committee and the proceeds will go to the building fund for the erection of the new chapel. All Stake members and their friends are invited.

BERKELEY WARD

All Services Held at Chapel, Corner Vine and Walnut Streets, Berkeley

Richard W. Owen

Richard W. Owens, the new second counselor to Bishop Jesse R. Farr, of Berkeley, was born in Ogden, Utah, November 18, 1913, a son of W. W. Owens and Clotilda Woodyatt. He is a graduate of Utah State Agriculture College and has done graduate work at the University of California here in Berkeley. Before coming here he was active in Church work, filling a three-year mission to Switzerland and Germany and presiding over Bremen and Hanover districts. In 1936 he was married to Margaret Watkins in the Logan Temple. He has served as clerk and later as counselor to Bishop Chase in Claremont ward bishopric.

Dennis Lauper, a recently returned missionary, was the speaker at the sacrament service on Sunday night, January 14. Special music was furnished by the ward choir.

The Deseret Club entertained at a costume party Friday night, January 19. The prizes for the most original costumes were awarded to Hazel Driggs and Newell Call.

A special interest class has been established in Mutual with Dr. Barlow as instructor. The subject, "Joseph Smith as a Translator From the Standpoint of a Psychologist," is very educational and interesting.

Lew Roland was the speaker at the January M. I. A. Conjoint. He spoke on the subject, "How Can the Word of Wisdom Help to Lead a Clean Life?" Special musical numbers were a piano solo by Marjorie Wood and a vocal duet by Orthella Hughes and Jesse Farr, accompanied by Phyllis Farr.

The annual M. M.-Gleaners banquet was held January 26, in the Berkeley Recreation Hall.

Spencer Taggart was the speaker at the Deseret Club meeting on January 14. He spoke on the subject, "United States and Japanese Trade Policy." Richard W. Young was the speaker on January 28, his subject being, "Brigham Young."

Mr. and Mrs. King Driggs and daughters, Alice and Donna, of Los Angeles, were recent visitors. They were the guests of their daughter, Mrs. LaVarn Thomas.

A. D. Miller and son, Elwin, of Ogden, Utah, are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan G. Tolman.

Troop 8, Boy Scouts of America, under the direction of Scoutmaster Dr. Raymond L. Knight and Assistant Scoutmaster LaVarn Thomas, will participate in the Merit Badge exhibit of the Berkeley-Albany division, February 9 and 10. They will exhibit the Merit Badge on weather.

Lambda Delta Sigma was entertained after the Sunday night meeting on January 14, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Rock.

A new ward directory has just been completed and distributed by J. Edward Johnson. This service is very valuable and is greatly appreciated by all ward members.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Clyde and children, Bobby and Melza Beth, of Salt Lake, were recent visitors in Berkeley. Their many friends here welcomed them back to their former home if only for a short visit.

Our Sunday School still grows. The friendly spirit which prevails, helps to swell its numbers. The help of the Deacons improve our marching. The appropriate flower decorations are supplied by Superintendent Geo. Hughes.

Clyde Summerhays, of the Stake Presidency, was the speaker at the Sunday night service, January 21. Special musical numbers, "Service," "There is a Green Hill," and "Cherubim Song," were rendered by the ward choir. Ray Minson, accompanied by Lillian Lloyd on the organ, gave a reading.

Honoring the retiring bishopric, Berkeley ward gave a party on Saturday night, January 27, in the ward chapel and recreation hall. In the receiving line in the lounge, were the incoming bishopric to welcome and present the guests to the retiring bishopric and their wives.

At 8:30 o'clock the chapel was filled with ward members who stood in respect as the guests of honor took their places on the rostrum. Master of Ceremonies F. E. Huish set the spirit of fun and friendliness for the evening by clever opening remarks and interesting anecdotes of incidents in the lives of the guests of honor.

The following program was given: Organ solo, Karleton Driggs; invocation, Bishop Jesse Farr; vocal solo, Orthella Hughes; reading, Marjorie Larson; piano solo, Reed Stone.

Each guest was then presented with a copy of "The Book of Mormon Doctrine and Covenants and the Pearl of Great Price," bound in leather and engraved in gold with the name of the receiver. The presentation was ably and appropriately made by Frank J. Parsons.

President Eugene Hilton made some timely and interesting remarks. After singing "Carry On," the party retired to the recreation hall where refreshments were served.

Under the direction of the M.I.A. a skit, "The Judgment Day," was presented. The "old" and "new" bishoprics were judged by a very able jury and the new bishopric was named "the singing bishopric" and sentenced to sing for the audience. They responded by singing "Little Brown Church in the Vale."

Joseph J. Hernandez, artist of sleight-of-hand and magic, then entertained with astounding and clever magic tricks.

The remainder of the evening was given over to more fun dancing to the music of Seth Lloyd's "Knights of Melody."

At the close of a perfect evening of honor, recognition, and fun, Delbert H. Rock pronounced the benediction and the party was over. Let's have more ward parties!

OAKLAND WARD

Services Held at Chapel, Corner Moss Avenue and Webster Street, Oakland

Mr. J. George Haddock, who just recently returned from a mission to the Southeastern States, was the speaker Sunday evening, January 14. Mr. Haddock delivered an exceptionally fine sermon.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hoyt have been visiting with their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hollman, during the past two weeks.

A baby girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hollman on January 6.

Sunday night, January 14, Mr. Tom Ferguson gave a lecture on "The Book of Mormon," in the Book of Mormon class, which was very interesting. Mr. Ferguson gave the class another lecture Sunday night, January 28.

The Mormon Male Chorus, under the direction of Robert Sant, will furnish an entire evening of musical entertainment, Sunday evening, February 4.

The Bee Hive girls of the Mutual Improvement Association, and their teacher, Mrs. Warnick, are holding a class party at Yvonne Shield's home, January 25.

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On January 12 Oakland ward put on a carnival and dance. They were hosts to Claremont, Berkeley and Richmond wards. All the organizations of the ward were represented by different kinds of booths. A floor show was staged by Hale Davis' Studio of Dancing. There was a very large representation from each ward.

Mrs. Edward Kingsford entertained in honor of her mother, Mrs. Norman B. Phillips, on her 70th birthday, January 3. A number of Mrs. Philips' friends were invited to spend the afternoon with her.

MARTINEZ WARD

Services Held at 1022 Thompson Street, Martinez

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Lott of Ucon, Idaho, are spending the winter at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Wanlass, in Rodeo.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Evenson spent Christmas holidays in Los Angeles with relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Storey and son, Michael, recently enjoyed a visit with relatives in Utah.

Marie Grover was called to Utah by the death of her sister, Miss Barbara Bott of Brigham City.

Mrs. Elsie Knowles and Mrs. Audrey Easton entertained the Relief Society at their monthly building fund birthday party at the Knowles home, December 27.

Mrs. Audie Johnson has been released as president of our Relief Society. Mrs. Wanda Roskelley has been chosen as our new president. The counselors will be the same as before, Mabel Wadsworth as first counselor and Elsie Nix as a second counselor, with Audrey Easton remaining as secretary.

Mr. Hugh P. Anderson was the speaker at our sacrament meeting January 21. Vocal solos were given by Mr. Rorrick of Crockett, and Elmer Jensen of the Mormon Male Chorus.

The Seventies presented the program at sacrament meeting, January 14. Ruel Wanlass and Duncan Ridge were the speakers.

CLAREMONT WARD

Services Held at 2980 Adeline Street, Berkeley

Druzella Stout is visiting her mother in Utah. Will return to California early in February.

Ellen Carr was made women's work director of Claremont.

Dorothy Oran and Maureen Carr were made visiting teachers.

Mrs. Velma Doran was made chairman of Relief Society.

The Sunday School has reorganized its superintendency. Carl Bromley is superintendent with Gunner Larson and Dave Gaisford helping him. Helen Burdett and Jean Brown will remain as secretaries.

In the Sunday School the two-and-one-half minute talks have been taken over by the class teachers. They will introduce themselves and their class and subject. The object is to inform the mothers and dads what their children are studying.

The Sunday School secretaries, Helen Burdett with Jean Brown assisting, won the Award of Approval from Salt Lake.

The group of Boy Scouts of which Claremont is very proud is holding its Court of Honor the 27th of February.

At the sacrament meetings the bishopric has adopted the plan of family night. The sacrament meeting will be handled by a family. It started January 28 with Tom and Lorna Birchill presiding.

Mr. Carr, teacher of the Gospel Doctrine class, returned from Utah and is resuming his class duties.

The engagement of Gorden Jones and Elain Mahaffy was announced January 18. The date of the wedding is not set, but it will be a temple marriage.

The first meeting of the Social Relations was held January 21. Bishop Reed Chase led the discussion.

Norma Bickmore and Dorothy Perry are the new teachers of the Book of Mormon class.

Mr. Charles Carr left Saturday, January 20, on a business trip to Arizona.

February 2 a Leap Year dance was held for Berkeley, Oakland and Richmond. Claremont was host.

A valentine party will be held February 13 at Claremont ward at which will be crowned the King and Queen of Hearts.

Helen and Mrs. Burdett left Wednesday, January 24, for Ogden, Utah. Will return in time for Helen to resume her school work.

VALLEJO WARD

Meet at 2010 Marin Street, Vallejo

Sunday School officers and teachers gave a delightful formal dance in the amusement hall the evening of December 16, which was enjoyed by members of our ward and their friends.

On December 23 at 3 p. m. all the children of our ward gathered at the ward hall, where they were the guests of the officers and teachers of the Sunday School and Primary. Games were enjoyed around a beautifully decorated Christmas tree, after which Santa appeared and gave each child a bag of candy.

Relief Society visiting teachers' meeting was held at the home of President Ruby Larsen, Friday, January 12, with nine officers and teachers present.

Primary teachers' training meeting was held Wednesday, December 20, 1939, at Georgia Coleman's home.

A very interesting lesson was given by Mavis Humphreys of Oakland. Geneva Hess, Esther Russell, Hilda C. Gardner and Rose Clark were also visitors from Oakland. After the meeting refreshments were served. There were 11 officers and teachers present.

Sunday, January 14, we were favored with members of the Stake Board as visitors at our Sunday School. Those present were E. Junius Payne and Timothy Morley. A Seal of Approval was presented to the Sunday School secretary for the reports and records sent in during the past year.

DIMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel at 3618 Dimond Avenue, Oakland

Naomi Kest and Clarence Boothe were married by President Hilton at his home Saturday evening, January 27. A wedding supper for relatives and close friends of the couple at the bridegroom's home, followed the ceremony.

Our choir director, Aaltje Johan, was extensively entertained by choir members following her release. After a dinner at the Kest home, she was surprised by the entire choir calling to present her with a parting gift of a Swiss musical jewel box in the form of a grand piano. Aaltje and her family are leaving to make their home in Los Angeles.

Relief Society President Ruth Shurtliff has chosen as her second counsellor, Cleo Ricks.

A visiting teachers' conference was held Tuesday afternoon, January 30, preceding the regular meeting. Luncheon was served, followed by a reading by Sarah Summerhays, and instructions from the Stake representative, Edna Dartin. Sarah Carruth was guest of honor.

The Primary is beginning their campaign for pennies for the children's hospital at Salt Lake City. Ill health caused the release of two Primary workers, Lulu McCarthy and LaVon McKean; they are to be succeeded by Ruth Pingree and Evangeline Peddler.

The regular monthly meeting of the Primary officers, Wednesday evening, January 31, at the home of Hazel Allen, was followed by a stork shower for three of their group, LaVon McKean, Hazel Segerstedt and Alice Everett. Each prospective mother was presented with a bassinet. The decorations and refreshments were in keeping with the stork theme. Lulu McCarthy was also presented with a token of friendship.

The Daughters of the Utah Pioneers met at the home of Nita Van Noy for their January meeting. Kate Snow of the Central Camp of Salt Lake City was the honored guest.

The Dimond Junior Book of Mormon class entertained at Dimond, January 12, for the Book of Mormon group of Sunset ward of San Francisco. Dancing and refreshments were enjoyed by the group.

Alice Lauper leaves March 25 for a mission to the Eastern States.

Dr. Glen Dorius is the new choir director for Dimond. He will be assisted by Erva Miller.

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RICHMOND WARD

Services Held in Chapel, Corner 28th Street and Nevin Avenue, Richmond

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Toponce and baby daughter have moved to Dimond ward.

Margene Haddock, Leah Tidwell, Ruth Hopkins, Ina Hopkins, Joyce Hopkins, and Leon Edlefson, who have been ill, are now on the road to recovery.

The M.I.A. sponsored a ward party on January 19. Games, dancing and refreshments were enjoyed.

Mr. Verl Orme of Tooele, Utah, has been a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Tidwell.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Layton are the proud parents of a baby boy, born November 25.

Mr. and Mrs. Foster Nelson are the proud parents of a baby daughter, born January 19.

Ruth Parker has been chosen as second counsellor of the Y.W.M.I.A The former counsellor, Mrs. Florence Wright, is now Relief Society president.

Lloyd Jorgenson of Lewiston, Utah, is here visiting with his cousin, Canada Bingham.

A silver jubilee program was given by the Bee Hive girls on January 23. After the program, refreshments were served and dancing was enjoyed.

ELMHURST WARD

Services Held at Chapel, 96th Avenue and Derby Street, Oakland

At the regular January baptismal service the ordinance was performed for five new members, four of which were adults. This speaks highly for the missionary work in Elmhurst ward and we hereby welcome the new members.

Bishop Horace J. McFarlane was recently called away from the ward for several weeks by a business trip to Portland, Oregon.

The Gleaner Girls entertained the M Men at a Leap Year party, given January 5, at the home of Miss Myrl Cox. The entertainment was original and varied; delicious refreshments were served and a delightful time had by all.

Mr. Robert Ray of Montpelier, Idaho, spent several days last month visiting with his daughter, Mrs. Eva Hunter, of Elmhurst.

Mrs. M. P. Ream was honored recently by a group of friends at a luncheon and stork shower which was given at the home of Mrs. W. C. Owens in San Leandro.

Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Folsom of Leavensworth, Washington, have been visiting with their daughter, Mrs. Leo Partington.

In place of the regular monthly work and business meeting, the Relief Society held its annual Heart Friend party on January 9. After a short, interesting program, delicious refreshments were served, and each member drew the name of a new Heart Friend for the following season.

Harold Lee, of Salt Lake City, head of the Church Security program, gave a talk to the young people of the ward as a special feature of the M.I.A. conjoint program, held Sunday evening, January 7.

Among recent new members of Elmhurst ward are Mr. and Mrs. A. James Martin and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, all of whom moved here from San Francisco Stake.

The married people of the ward made merry at a Married Folks Costume Dance, which was held in the recreation hall on the evening of January 25. A splendid orchestra was secured for the occasion and a good crowd was in attendance.

Little Bert Smith, the four-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn E. Smith, had the misfortune recently of suffering a broken leg, when he was accidentally struck by a car while crossing Foothill Boulevard.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS:

To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jamison Pelton, Oakland, a son, October 24.
To Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Stoddard, Oakland, a daughter, October 12.
To Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Lynn Goodfellow, Oakland, a son, November 9.
To Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Lynch, Oakland, a son, November 22.
To Mr. and Mrs. George P. Barber, Martinez, a son, January 14.
To Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Layton, Richmond, a son, November 25.
To Mr. and Mrs. Foster Nelson, Richmond, a daughter, January 19.
To Mr. and Mrs. Milton Ream, Elmhurst, a son.
To Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Merrill, Berkeley, a daughter, January 14.

BLESSINGS:

Lynn Richard Shurtleff, Vallejo.
Alfred Winn Layton, Richmond.
Thomas Arnold Neves, Martinez.
Blessed December 3, Oakland: Robert Jamison Pelton, Alice Carrol Stoddard, Jerry Lynn Goodfellow, Maureen LaVesta Boyle, William Robert Boyle, Carl Hoglund, Jr.
Diane LaVerne Venturi, Oakland, December 24.
Richard Blair Lynch, Oakland, January 7.

BAPTISMS AND CONFIRMATIONS:

Charles Ray Bates, Elmhurst.
Arthur George Morris, Elmhurst.
Halford Rose, Elmhurst.
Gerald Thomas Noble, Elmhurst.
Liggett William Hopkins, Elmhurst.
May Alice Lindeloff, Oakland.
William Richmond, Oakland.
John Chester Gealta, Dimond.
Norma Wiseman Baksendale, Richmond.
Max Leon Bingham, Richmond.
Herbert Ferdinand Layton, Jr., Richmond.
Fay Fowles, Vallejo.
Donna Marlene Fowles, Vallejo.
Charlene Parker, Vallejo.
Doreen Hariman, Berkeley.
Ruth E. Moosman, Berkeley.
Denzel C. Allen, Jr., Berkeley.
Thomas H. Johnson, Berkeley.
Joan J. Cryder, Berkeley.

ORDINATIONS:

Norvil Dorman, Vallejo, Deacon.
William J. Whelan, Vallejo, Deacon.
Thomas D. Cline Raty, Vallejo, Deacon.
Vernal Lewis, Vallejo, Teacher.
Oakland Dennis Whelan, Vallejo, Teacher.
Theral Nielsen, Vallejo, Priest.
Robert Thomas Wright, Dimond, Priest.
Stanley Earl Amtoft, Dimond, Deacon.
Harlan James Heydon, Dimond, Teacher.
James Nephi Williams, Martinez, Deacon.
Louis L. Johnson, Oakland, Elder.
Lawrence J. Sears, Oakland, Elder.
Albert S. Rissman, Oakland, Priest.
Ronald Stone, Berkeley, Deacon.
Delbert H. Rock, Jr., Berkeley, Deacon.
Richard W. Owen, Berkeley, High Priest.

TEMPLE MARRIAGES:

A. Ivins Hilton and Edna Irene Huish, Dimond, Salt Lake Temple, January 24, 1940.

DEATHS:

Mrs. Carylin Powell, Berkeley, January 13.

The officers of the M.I.A. recently held an after-Mutual party in recreation hall, where they forgot their worries and proceeded to have a little fun.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolyat T. Cox have returned home after spending several weeks visiting with friends and relatives in Salt Lake City and Ogden, and in doing temple work at the Salt Lake Temple.

Mrs. Jennie Paine, accompanied by her daughter, Marjory, and her son, Jack, recently made a brief trip to Ogden, Utah, where she visited with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Coombs were hosts at a party, on January 20, which celebrated the birthdays of Mrs. N. C. Tolman, Mr. Manton Moody, and Mr. Coombs. A delicious supper was served to the 12 guests.

Honoring Mr. and Mrs. Clark Murphy and Mrs. Lorraine Goodpasture, the Primary officers and teachers and their partners gave a social in the recreation hall, January 29. The honor guests, who are retiring after several years of active service in the Primary, were each presented with a book as a small token of appreciation.

Stake Professional Directory

It is desired that every professional or business man, and those engaged in positions where their services can be used by Church members, be listed in this directory. Please communicate with H. A. Van Noy, Business Manager, 2533 Cordova Street, Oakland, California. Phone ANdover 3328.

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